95

TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FEBRUARY, 1995

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Charles Fagel KR4YZ 267-1475 SECRETARY: Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV 268-8537
V.PRESIDENT: Tom Nguyen AD4NA 636-6663 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Charles Fagel KR4YZ

The fox hunts at Daytona and TARC were great. Both attracted a good crowd and all had fun. Bud K4CWG was the fox at Daytona, and the winner was Tom AD4NA. Wynn WB4ZUY, Teresa WB4ZUZ, and Warren KS4GP were the TARC foxes, and did a super job of hiding in the Magic Forest. Joe KE4AEB and Tom AD4NA were the winners.

This is the time of year where we need lots of volunteering. Professor José KC4VIO will be starting the no code classes on Jan. 24, and needs volunteers for lecturing and other activities.

Warren KS4GP has volunteered to "chair" field day to be held at Fox Lake on June 24 & 25. He needs all kinds of volunteers, including, but not limited to committees, equipment, operators, workers, etc. Though the date is 5 months away, don't wait. Contact Warren now. There is much to do and time is short.

We are also in the market for volunteers for our November hamfest, including the job of chairman. How about it? We need to get rolling. Every year we have gotten bigger and better. Let's keep it going..

Bud K4CWG has accepted the task of making up an inventory and location list of club owned equipment. To accomplish this task, we need your cooperation and input. If you are custodian of any club equipment, please contact Bud and let him know what you have.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

DON'T FORGET!

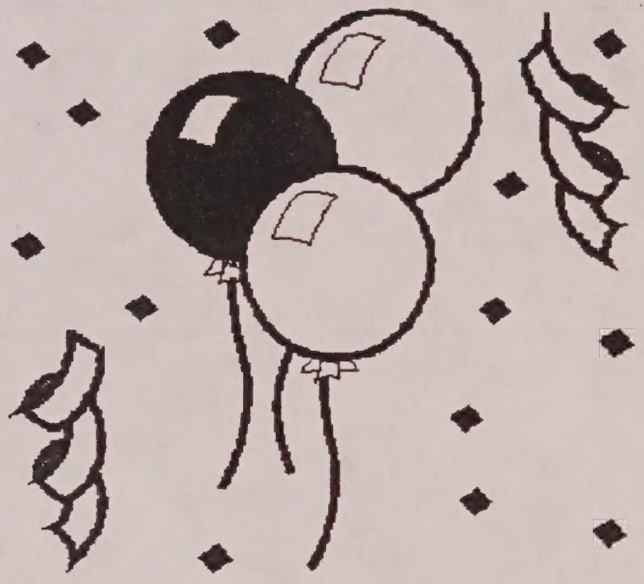
2/11 Daytona fox hunt - Tom AD4NA is the fox

2/12 TARC fox hunt - Joe KE4AEB is the fox

2/28 TARC meeting

VOLUNTEER!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02-02	KE4AED	JIM SHAVER
02-02	K4CWG	BUD HUGHES
02-02	WB4DXD	BUCK TOMLINSON
02-03	WB4CCB	DON JOERGER
02-04	W4LAC	JASON RUDISELL
02-12	KE4MWZ	MIKE ELLIXSON
02-13	KE4INL	DAN SMITH
02-14	WB4ZUY	WYNN ROSTEK
02-16	KD4ZAH	JEWEL SANFORD
02-16	KC4WKV	BUCK THORNE
02-17	WA4HSY	C.J. PETRICK
02-18	KE4BBH	JIM PREVATT
02-21	K1SKQ	FRANCIS McDERMOTT
02-21	N4WIN	WALT FOSTER
02-25	K4IXU	JOHN PITTMAN
02-28	KE4BBL	CINDY SARGENTI

NEWS RELEASE

The Vibroplex Co., Inc., the "oldest Name in Amateur Radio", has been acquired by S. Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, Jr., of Mobile Alabama. Mitch, whose amateur call is WA4OSR, is an extra class amateur first licensed in 1963, and he is the first ham to own the Company. Vibroplex will be moving all of its operations back to the south, where its roots began. All current Vibroplex products, including the Original bug, the Iambic, the Vibrokeyer, and the Brass Racer keys will continue to be produced.

Mitch says "The Vibroplex name is older than amateur radio and has come to represent the one piece of equipment in the ham shack that symbolizes the interest, camaraderie, and esprit de corps of the world-wide ham radio community. Even in this age of electronics, the heritage of Vibroplex has been passed down from generation to generation in the service of professional and amateur radio operators who demand quality. I intend to continue the unmatched Vibroplex quality, simplicity, and performance." And, Mitch adds, ". . . be watching for some new, exciting products from Vibroplex in the near future."

The new address of Vibroplex is 11 Midtown Park, E., Mobile, AL 36606-4141. The new voice telephone numbers are 205-478-8873 and 800-840-8873. The new FAX number is 205-476-0465.

Since 1890
"the oldest name in amateur radio"

MORE FCC REORGANIZATION

The Federal Communications Commission on December 1, established a new Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, as part of its continuing reorganization began last summer.

The new bureau will have seven divisions and will "handle all FCC domestic wireless telecommunications programs and policies, except satellite communications", the FCC said. The new bureau also will "serve as the Commission's principal policy and administrative resource regarding spectrum auctions."

Ralph Haller, formerly chief of the Private Radio Bureau, was named one of two deputy bureau chiefs, reporting directly to the chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Regina M. Keeney. Both of Keeney's parents are licensed amateurs. The new Private Radio Division, along with the Licensing Division, will handle Amateur Radio matters at FCC.

The FCC said that the Private Radio Division would "project demand for existing and possible new communications requirements and services."

CONELRAD REBORN

From Amateur Radio Newsline #903

The Federal Communications Commission has adopted a new emergency broadcast system for TV, radio and, for the first time, cable television systems. The system, which is to provide TV viewers and radio listeners with warnings on everything from approaching tornadoes and flooding to chemical spills, will be more advanced than the current system, which is more than 40 years old. The system will have a louder warning tone and text in large letters for those who can't see or hear well.

Stations and cable outlets using the new system will also have the capability of providing warnings in a variety of languages. And for the first time, the warning system will permit these outlets to send as well as receive alert information.

Thousands of broadcast stations and most, if not all, of the nation's 11,000 cable systems must have the new system in place by 1996 and 1997 respectively.

HAM RADIO BILL IS NOW LAW

From January, 1995 QST
By Steve Mansfield N1MZA

Has the ARRL-sponsored Senate Joint Resolutions 90 (S.J.Res.90) become law?
President Clinton signed S.J. Res.90 on October 22, 1994. It immediately became Public Law 103-408 (P.L.103-408)

Stripping away all the legal mumbo-jumbo, what does P.L.103-408 say?
The law acknowledges the contributions of ham radio operators in emergencies throughout the years. It's also a "sense of Congress" statement that the FCC should encourage the use of new technologies in the Amateur Radio service.

What's so important about that?
It encourages the FCC to permit amateurs to experiment in new modes and to explore new ideas.

Does the law say anything else?
It sure does. It asks for "reasonable accommodation" in the operation of Amateur Radio equipment from private homes, automobiles and public places.

Is this the "magic bullet" I've needed to resolve my antenna problems?
Probably not. S.J.Res.90 wasn't intended to be the key to antenna cases. The disputes we see these days around the country involve complex issues of zoning regulations, building codes, EMI and safety arguments, aesthetics, and even (in the case of covenants) contract law. P.L.103-408 does not mandate any particular outcome for these kinds of disputes. On the positive side, the "reasonable accommodation" language parallels the language of PRB-1, the FCC preemption statement asserting that antenna regulation primarily is a function of the Federal Government, not states or municipalities. But even under the best of scenarios P.L.103-408 is only a piece of the puzzle.

Then what's the point?
Think of the law as a tool to use when you approach town officials - zoning boards, inspectors, and other municipal authorities - to put up your antenna or tower. By including a copy of the law with your presentation to officials, you may enhance your credibility and reinforce the concepts implicit in PRB-1 that Amateur Radio deserves "reasonable accommodations."

How else can it help?
The two year fight for S.J.Res.90 and its House companion H.J.Res. 199, enlisted the help of 250 congressmen and 48 senators, most of whom survived the recent election. In addition, we established productive relationships with key committee staff members and groups in Washington who are interested in spectrum protection. Our nonpartisan, information based lobbing campaign earned respect and friends for Amateur Radio on Capitol Hill. That may ultimately be more beneficial than any legislation we could have gotten passed.

How did we get our bill introduced?
Year-round, the ARRL meets with Congress and staff to explain the concerns of Amateur Radio. Sometimes, we try to stop a bill or get an amendment. Occasionally, we seek a sponsor for a new bill. Congressman Mike Kreidler of Washington State had helped us on another issue and stepped forward to help with the Joint Resolution. Shortly thereafter, Senator Robb volunteered to help in the Senate because of his high regard for hams in Virginia. The two introduced identical bills in the House and Senate.

Weren't a lot of confusing politics involved in getting S.J.Res. 90 passed?
Not really. What made it seem confusing was the fact that we hedged our bets by supporting three different bills to achieve the same result. Things got truly crazy only at the end of the session.
>Each bill in congress is assigned to a committee. What the committee decides spells life or death for the bill. We asked Congressman Kreidler to offer an amendment to H.R.4522 containing key language from the Joint Resolution during Energy and Commerce Committee markup. The bill was reported to the floor of the House. As a result, H.J.Res. 199 died. Action was deferred on HJ.R.4522 at the end of the session. Over in the senate, S.J.Res. 90 had been reported out of the Commerce Committee and was in line for a vote. Thanks to some parliamentary magic by Senator Robb, the bill passed the Senate and went to the House, where it was adopted unanimously as the session was winding up.

Did ARRL members help?
You bet they did! They went above and beyond the call of duty in writing letters and making phone calls to their senators and representatives urging them to co-support the bill. Republicans and Democrats alike signed on. Cosponsorship isn't binding, but it does indicate the level of congressional acceptance of a piece of legislation, and can be a key to getting attention. In this case, it was the difference between success and failure at the end of the session. Some ARRL members got creative. They send their messages on QSL cards. Others phoned or faxed. All made a difference.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND IS HIS H-T

By Andrew Hair AB5WB (2/95 QST)

In my 19 years as a ham I have never been more thankful for Amateur Radio than I was on the evening of November 29, 1994. I was walking my Basset Hound, Floppy, when a full grown Rottweiler approached us from the rear and began circling my dog and me. It would not let us move and backed us against the side of a nearby house. I made several attempts to calm the stray dog, but with each minute it became increasingly agitated.
>I had my H-T with me, but each time I raised it to transmit, the dog seemed to sense the use of my radio as a threatening move and became more agitated! Finally, I was able to very quietly transmit a call for help. Jim Bradshaw AB5UF heard my nearly inaudible call and quickly placed a phone patch to my wife so I could tell her to come pick us up, quickly!
>When she arrived a few moments later, I slowly worked my way to the street and opened the car door. At that point the Rottweiler decided to attack. I picked up Floppy, dove into the car and struggled to shut the door despite the Rotweiler's enormous head and jaws, which were almost completely wedged between the car door and frame. Once we were in the car, he jumped against the side of our car and showed his displeasure.
>All I can say is thank God for the helping nature of Amateur Radio operators and Jim Bradshaw!
>My wife has greatly reduced the number of jokes she used to make about my H-T "always" hanging from my belt!

MEET CHARLIE KR4YZ & SHIRLEY FAGEL

Charlie was born and grew up in Schenectady, NY, while Shirley was born in Glens Falls, NY and grew up in Lothams, NY.

Just before the war, Charlie went to work for General Electric. When the war came, he enlisted and saw service in Africa, Corsica, France and Germany. After the war Charlie returned to GE where he eventually met Shirley, who was working as a machine designer. They married in January 1948. 1956 saw the Fagel family transferred to San Jose, CA with the newly formed GE Nuclear Energy Division. In 1958 Charlie was sent to Europe on a two week assignment which stretched out to 24 years. The family rejoined in Rome, Italy in 1960. From there it was Germany, France, Spain and Switzerland, and in 1984 return to the US and retirement.

They selected Titusville upon the advice of a friend who lived here, and because of the high cost of living in California.

Charlie and Shirley have two daughters living in Corvellis, Oregon; 2 sons living in Ohoway, Michigan, and 4 grandchildren.

Shirley's hobbies are golf, cooking, doll making, quilting and painting. Charlie's hobbies are golf, radio, clocks, wood working and mechanics.

THIS AND THAT
By Joan Hoag KE4SXU

The bride, white of hair, is stooped over her cane. Her footsteps - uncertain - need guiding.
While down the opposite aisle with a wan, toothless smile the bridegroom in wheelchair comes riding.
Now who is this elderly couple, thus wed? Well, you'll find out when you've closely explored it.
That here is that rare, most conservative pair who waited 'til they could afford it!
"Timid Salesmen Have Skinny Kids" Judge Ziglar

1. Stop reading and hold up 3 fingers of your writing hand.
2. Think of a flower and don't change your mind.
3. Now think of a piece of furniture.
4. Think of a color.
5. Think of a number between one and ten.

The odds are overwhelming that:

1. You held up all but your thumb and little finger. 96% do.
2. You thought of a rose. 50% do.
3. You thought of a chair. 1/3 do.
4. You selected red. 60% do.
5. You chose seven. 25% do.

We're a lot alike! From Zig Ziglar's "Secrets"

Brave Buffalo said, "I have noticed in my life that all men have a loving for some special animal, tree, plant or spot of earth. If man . . . would make himself worthy of that, he might have dreams to purify his life. Animals want to communicate with man, but God does not intend they shall do so directly. Man must do the greater part in securing an understanding.
Francis Densmore 1918

The language of birds is very ancient, and, like other ancient modes of speech, very elliptical. Little is said, but much is meant and understood. Gilbert White -1778

If you touch me soft and gentle
If you look at me and smile at me
If you listen to me talk sometimes before you talk
I will grow - really grow.
Bradley (age 9)

I think - one must finally take one's life in one's arms.
From "After the Fall" Arthur Miller

You cannot teach a man anything. You can only help him discover it within himself. Galileo

It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.

Life is like an onion: you peel off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep.
Carl Sandburg

Man's mind - stretched to a new idea - never goes back to its original dimensions.
Oliver Wendell Holmes

Man ultimately decides for himself. And in the end, education must be education toward the ability to decide. Victor Franke

History is lived in the main by the unknown and forgotten. Arthur M. Schesinger, Jr. 1981

The frontier develops strong individuals, but it develops individuals of a particular type, all being after much the same pattern. The individualism of the frontier is one of achievement - not of eccentricity. Carl Becker 1910

The true character of the spirit of an age is better revealed by its mode of regarding and expressing trivial and commonplace things than in the high manifestations of philosophy and science.
J. Henzinga "The Waning of the Middle Ages" 1924

God sleeps in minerals, awakens in plants, walks in animals, and thinks in man
Sanskrit Apothegm [4th c. B.C.]

If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.
Loren Eiseley 1946

To follow a creek is to seek a new acquaintance with life. Peter Steinhart 1989

How terribly sad it is to never be called by your own name occasionally. Anonymous 1994

Nature alone is never entertainment enough for city people for more than a few minutes.
John Fraser Hart 1975

TREASURER'S REPORT
By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1993	518.90
DEPOSITS Year to date	9,581.92
TOTAL INCOME	$10,100.82
EXPENDITURES	9,030.14
BALANCE AS AT 12/31/94	$1,070.68

OVERHEARD ON 80 METERS
By Norm AA4FY

ED NOTE: When Norm handed me this, he had a very strange look in his eyes. After reading it, my first thought was "no way am I going to print this!" But after thinking on his look, I decided that maybe he wasn't just daring me to print it, but that he might have some diabolical thoughts on freedom of the press. Those of you who know Norm well, will understand why I just had to print it. If you don't like it, please make it a point to tell him so. If you do like it, please don't encourage him by mentioning it to him.

.....He worked with a lady who wanted him to date her sister, which he did, and he was completely enamored with her. He decided to send her a gift, and his lady co-worker said she would help him pick out a suitable one for her sister. They decided on a pair of expensive fur lined gloves, and while he was writing a note to enclose with the gloves, his co-worker picked out a pair of panties for herself. The sales girl wrapped the two items, but labeled them incorrectly, and his note was enclosed with the panties and delivered to his new lady friend. The note said.....

.....On the last few times we have been together, I have noticed that you have not been wearing these, and I thought a pair would be appropriate for you. Your sister helped me pick them out, and she slipped them on and off a few times to show me how easy they were to handle. The sales lady also showed me how they fitted her, and put them on a few times also. I know that many hands will fondle these and caress them before we have the opportunity to go out again, and they may become soiled and scuffed, but I hope you will wear them, as I will be cherishing the thought to be just one of the many people who have had the honor to hold and squeeze them. P.S. I have been told that the fashionable way to wear these is with the tops turned down a little to show some of the fur.

TARC AND ARRL
By Clyde Lee K4EOS

This is a reminder to ARRL renewal members and potential new members.

ARRL is a powerful voice for amateur radio. Our club is ARRL affiliated only as long as we maintain a certain percentage of our membership in ARRL.

Renewing your ARRL membership through TARC is easy. When you get your renewal notice, send it to me along with your check MADE OUT TO TARC. (I'll pick it up if you need me to). I will mail it promptly to ARRL and the club will earn $2.00 ($5.00 for a new member). Any new member who wishes to join ARRL, please contact me. I have application forms.

A renewal or new membership not processed through the above method does not count toward our ARRL affiliation.

W1AW FAVORS THE SOUTHEAST
From Amateur Radio Newsline #900

ARRL headquarters station W1AW has reoriented its beam antenna system on 20, 15 and 10 meters to provide improved coverage in the southeastern United States. The league says that its main 120 foot high tower now has its upper bay of antennas pointed west with the lower bay fed in phase and pointed toward the south. The reorientation work was performed by W1AW station manager WA1MBK and station operator WB9RRU and the ARRL wants to know how the W1AW signal is now coming in.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

I am a newspaper article clipper and saver. Looking through some of my old clippings, I ran across one which I'm sure the subject will be of interest to most of our readers. It is from the January 15, 1951 Washington Post newspaper.

The headline reads: "New FCC Rules Set Up 6 Classes of Radio 'Hams'."

In summary, the article states that on that day the Federal Communications Commission announced the establishment of six new classes of amateur operators licenses in place of the present three classes (A, B and C). The effective dates would be staggered as follows: On March 1, 1951, three new classes will become effective. A Conditional class (previously class C) based on ability to send and receive 13 wpm and a wider general knowledge. A General class (previously class B) also with 13 wpm requirements and wider general knowledge. And an Advanced class (previously class A) which provides for renewal of existing class A with knowledge of radio telephone and 13 wpm radio telegraph.

On July 1, 1951, two new licenses would become effective: A Novice class which will require the ability to send and receive 5 wpm and elementary radio knowledge, and a Technician class covering novice qualifications, plus operational experience and more technical knowledge.

Finally, on January 1, 1952, an Extra class, for those who can receive and send 20 wpm and having knowledge of advanced radio theory.

The article goes on to state that "There are now about 90,000 licensed amateur operators in this country." (As of this writing - January, 1995 - there are about 640,000 licensed amateur radio operators in the United States.)

I cannot resist the opportunity to share with you the following: We were living in Washington, DC at the time. The office where I worked was two blocks from the FCC. I was the holder of Class A license since 1946. When the Extra class became effective in January, 1951, I procrastinated for several months and finally went to the FCC office and passed the Extra class exam. I was issued the Extra class certificate, dated May 8, 1952, and bearing the number AE-24-20. I was curious about the number and on one of my lunch breaks I took the certificate back to the FCC and asked my examiner to explain their numbering system. He told me the first part (AE-24) was simply an FCC prefix. The last part of the number (20), he said, was the actual serial number. He further added, "In other words, you are the 20th person to have been issued the Extra class amateur license."

ANOTHER USE FOR THE DIPPER

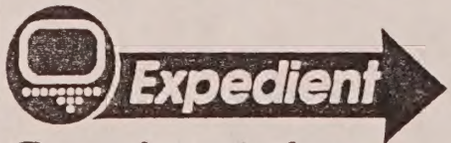
By W4VQB - Bob

I enjoyed Pike's article in the Jan. '95 issue about the grid dip oscillator, although I didn't see how that became an Abell Anecdote.

Here's another sneaky use for the g.d.o. Place it in a hidden place behind your TV set near the antenna (or cable) connector. Then by carefully tuning it, you can wipe out a TV channel that has a program you don't want the kids to watch, or keep your XYL from watching old Lucy reruns. This is called active censorship versus passive trap filters.

As Pike pointed out, the g.d.o. is a miniature transmitter and many a "ham" has loop coupled it to an antenna and made contacts. I did this myself in 1950 and contacted a ZS in South Africa on ten meter CW. The old Millen g.d.o. drifted badly and didn't key too well, so I gave up on using it to work all states.

Contacts made with a g.d.o. are called "dippies", and so are the operators!



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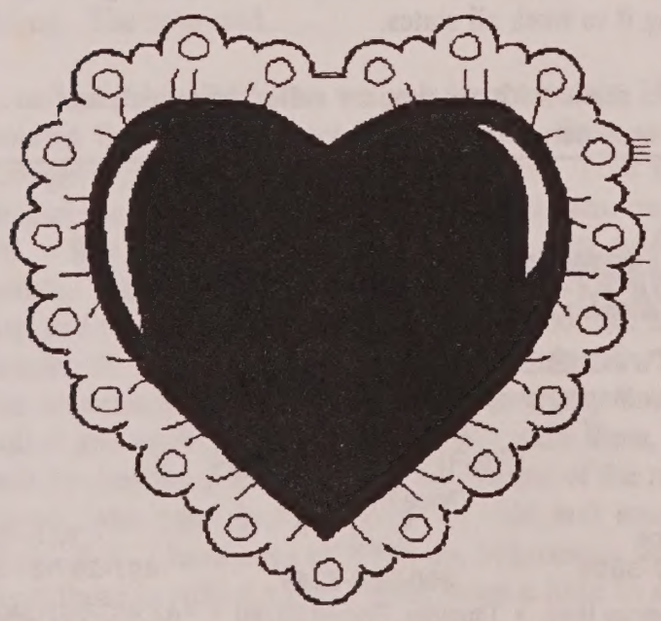
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total Membership:	269 (includes 52 family members and 9 honorary)
New Members:	None this month
Renewals:	K1SKQ Francis McDermott WD4JSX Donald Hatfield KE4JBF Joann Hatfield WB1FBZ Emil Montplaisir

UPCOMING FLORIDA HAMFESTS

2/4-5	Miami Hamfest Talk-in on 146.760
2/11	Arcadia Talk-in on 147.075
2/11	Pensacola Talk-in on 146.760 & 444.925
2/18-19	Orlando Hamfest Talk-in on 146.670
2/25	Stuart Hamfest Talk-in on 147.060
2/25	Brooksville Talk-in on 146.715
3/11	Sebring Talk-in on 147.060
4/8-9	Gainesville Talk-in on 146.820

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